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31. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the frames include characteristics that are symbolic of objects of the container.--

R E M A R K S

In the aforementioned Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,479,602 to Baecker et al. (Baecker); and rejected claims 4, 10, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baecker in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,785,420 to Little. Applicants have amended claims 1-18 to clarify certain aspects of the invention, and have added new claims 19-31.

Independent claims 1, 7, and 13 distinguish patentably from Baecker. Each of these claims recites a combination of operations or elements including, inter alia, operations or elements related to detecting an event reflecting a change in the state of the container and determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container.

Baecker fails to disclose or suggest such a combination of operations or elements. Specifically, Baecker discloses at col. 8, line 58, to col. 9, line 6, that a change of content animation is performed after the occurrence of an event, without regard to whether the animated sequence reflects the state of the container. Baecker's sole dependence on the occurrence of an event is undesirable, because, for example,

an event occurring after a small change, or no change at all, will trigger the entire update process of Baecker.

In contrast, applicants' invention monitors a software container to determine if an update of animation is necessary. Accordingly, the monitoring can avoid unnecessary updating. Thus, applicants' invention can avoid taxing a system more readily than Baecker.

In view of the foregoing, Baecker does not render claims 1, 7, and 13 invalid under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and the rejection of these claims based on Baecker should be withdrawn.

Little clearly fails to remedy the aforementioned deficiencies of Baecker, because Little also fails to disclose or suggest operations or elements related to detecting an event reflecting a change in the state of the container and determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container, as claimed in combination in each of independent claims 1, 7, and 13. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Baecker and Little should also be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, and 14-18 are allowable for at least the reasons stated above with regard to independent claims 1, 7, and 13. Moreover, new dependent claims 29-31 recite that the frames include characteristics that are symbolic of objects of the container. This recitation is to be contrasted with the information displayed in the system of Baecker. In Baecker, thumbnail images of the content of a

document are produced. A thumbnail is not symbolic of information contained in the container, because a thumbnail does not suggest anything other than the content of the thumbnail. For example, applicants' specification teaches that a posted question is represented by the symbol of a question mark. Accordingly, claims 29-31 further distinguish from the applied references.

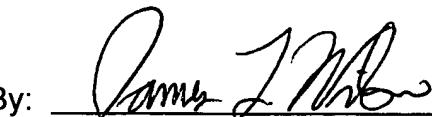
New claims 19-28 have been added to further define applicants' invention. In view of the recitations set forth in these claims, it is clear that these claims are not rendered invalid under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103 by Baecker and Little.

Since this application is now in condition for issue, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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